

**LETTER FROM U.S. COAST GUARD ACTIVITIES NEW YORK
TO
PORT IMPERIAL FERRY CORPORATION
DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2000
REGARDING
UNAPPROVED ELECTRICAL MODIFICATIONS**

3 PAGES (INCLUDING COVER)

U.S. Department
of Transportation

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
United States Coast Guard
Activities New York

212 Coast Guard Drive
Staten Island, NY 10305
Staff Symbol: (FCD)
Phone: (718) 354-4008
Fax: (718) 354-4297

16711
November 22, 2000

Port Imperial Ferry Corporation
Foot of Pershing Road
Weehawken, NJ. 07087

Subj: UNAPPROVED ELECTRICAL MODIFICATIONS

Gentlemen:

Due to the recent casualty onboard the PORT IMPERIAL MANHATTAN, my inspectors had cause to visit the PORT IMPERIAL NEW JERSEY. During the examination of the NEW JERSEY they found unapproved modifications to the DC Electrical System. The material condition of these modifications have not proven as yet to be the cause of a fire on the MANHATTAN. Even so, they presented a significant enough risk to warrant the issuance of a CG-835 not to operate until repairs or reinstallation can be done with our oversight.

With the recent casualty and subsequent findings on the sister vessel, a question has been raised which must be answered. Therefore, I must direct you to evaluate the remainder of the vessels in your fleet for any modifications to the electrical systems that have been made without Coast Guard oversight. These items may be readily identified by comparing Coast Guard Approved Electrical Drawings against the current installations onboard your vessels. If differences are found you may remove the unapproved installations or update the drawings and submit the corrections to this office for review. I recognize that it may take an independent Professional Marine Electrician to complete this work. I will consider proposals for accomplishing this work over the next month. I look forward to working together to ensure the continued safety of your passengers and crew.

Please contact CWO Ken Boyer at (718) 354-4281 or LT Sean Brady at (718) 354-4287 to schedule a meeting within the week to determine a proper course of action in this matter.



J. E. CAMERON

Commander, U S Coast Guard
Chief, Inspection Branch

By direction, Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection

DEWITT CLINTON	D280282
ROBERT LIVINGSTON	D617827
JOHN JAY	D625597
CHARLES LINBURGH	D641076
AMELIA EARHART	D642340
WEEHAWKEN	D908076
PORT IMPERIAL NEW JERSEY	D928331
GEORGE WASHINGTON	D948900
THOMAS JEFFERSON	D948901
ALEXANDER HAMILTON	D948902
ABRAHAM LINCOLN	D948903
WEST NEW YORK	D957551
HENRY HUDSON	D989554
EMPIRE STATE	D997922
ROBERT FULTON	D990941
GARDEN STATE	D1022780
JOHN STEVENS	D1048895
THEODORE ROOSEVELT	D1036356